

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2078-MC-FFS

DATE: December 16, 2019

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Providers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Billing Codes 80 and 81 for Unplanned Readmissions Within 30 Days For The Same Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG)

EFFECTIVE: February 1, 2020

In the case of an unplanned readmission within 30 days for the same DRG, the claims for the initial admission and the readmission are combined into one. To account for the member's absence between admissions value code 81 and leave of absence (LOA) revenue code (180) should be used. Value code 81 will account for the difference between the first and second admission along with any other non-covered days related to the LOA so they are not included in the long-stay day outlier calculation. The LOA revenue code (180) should be used for the line item gap between first and second admission. The Leave of Absence (LOA) Revenue Code must be billed on a subsequent line on the claim to show the non-covered (leave days) with the billed amount of \$.01.

This guidance will apply to claims received on or after February 1, 2020, by the IME and MCOs.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally 515- 256-4609 or by email at IMEproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.